



Ramón Valle

Cuban pianist Ramón Valle is a seasoned veteran with the explosive energy of a racehorse straight out of the gate.

Ramón's stage presence is commanding, whether within the ranks of an orchestra or leading a trio. His performances and stage presence are charismatic, his music – intoxicating.

Valle was only seven when he began studying the piano at the Escuela Nacional de Arte in his hometown Holguin, Cuba. He later completed his advanced studies at the Escuela Nacional de Arte in Havana. After establishing himself on the jazz festival scene in Mexico, Bogotá and Havana, the great Cuban pianist and founder of Irakere, **Chucho Valdes**, declared Ramón Valle **'The greatest talents among our young pianists'**, when introducing Ramón on his debut album, *Levitando* in 1993.

Valle's original composition, *Levitando*, has since become a well known Cuban anthem around the world.

Valle has been featured on international stages as: The London Jazz Festival, The North Sea Jazz Festival, Havana Jazz festival, Bogotá Jazz Festival/Colombia, Montreux Jazz Festival, Leverkusen Festival, Piano Solo Festival/Prague, Capetown Jazz Festival, Melbourne Jazz Festival, Johannesburg Jazz Festival, Hungarian Jazz Festival/Budapest, Israel's Sinfonietta Beer Sheva, and shared the stage with musicians as **Roy Hargrove**, **Marcus Miller**, **Chucho Valdes** among others.

Ramón Valle recorded 13 albums, of which 3 albums with the German record label **ACT** and he is now signed to **In+Out Records**, a German-based independent label with distribution throughout Europe, The USA and other international countries.

His brandnew album **'The Time Is Now'** is probably his most personal album so far.

With this new recording, Ramón Valle takes on the role of musical time traveler, as he experiences and interprets, from an up close and personal vantage, the music that is happening today.

A very special collaboration with his long time friend and colleague **Roy Hargrove** also gives this album a personal dimension.

In September 2018 Ramón Valle won the **Cubadisco Award**, Cuba's most prestigious music award, for his album "The Art Of Two" in the category **"Best Instrumental Album 2018"**.

In May 2019 Ramón Valle received the **honorary award** for his excellent work as an artist, composer and teacher. For his outstanding achievements as a composer with a repertoire that synthesizes the tendencies of contemporary jazz **he is considered one of the best Cuban jazz pianists around the world.**

"Valle is a more open, overly emotional piano – trio master than Brad Meldhau. McCoy Tyner and Chick Corea are the musicians who come to mind as comparisons. He is a formidably sophisticated player rooted in Cuban jazz, but drawing on resources way beyond the usual suspects the idiom usually calls up. ★★★★★ – THE GUARDIAN, LONDON

"Valle is equally adept at intensely swinging like Oscar Peterson – but with a groove that reflects the syncopation of the Afro-Cuban clave-playing pop music or reveling in the island's many traditional rhythms. And like any of the pianists who record for ECM, Valle can draw the curtain down around himself and play powerfully introspective music." – JAZZTIMES